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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
Professor Joshua Lederberg

January 31, 1967

Dear Dave- Perlow m

Thank you for the note; I usually read the editorial page but would have missed it yesterday if you hadn't pointed it out.

You are probably wearv of the whole business, and you may already know very well the scientific background of the problem. But in case the Harlow argument seems intimidating, I thought the enclosed texts might be useful.

Anastasi's noint about the relativity of env/her components (i.e., their percentage influence has to add up to 100%, hence the importance of one depends on the range of the other) is too often overlooked, and Harlow is quite guilty of the fallacy. It would be interesting to know the biology of intellectual difference but I despair of finding out while there is so much environmental confounding, and I don't think we will until we have more immediate biochemical and developmental approaches to the nature of intelligence.

Our position is not to attack the reasonableness of Shockedy's questions, but the inflammatory style in which they are put. But I don't want to add to any public polemics on this, certainly not in the context of a personal feud.

Yours,

Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Laboratories for Molecular Medicine dedicated to the study of mental retardation

Molecular Biology Heredity Neurobiology Developmental Medicine